

Project Name

Community Streetscape Improvements
Bloomingtondale

HNTB Project #

43343-PL-002

Date of Meeting

October 14th, 2006

Location

The Big Bear Café - Bloomingtondale

Purpose of Meeting

**Project Initiation and Community
Walk-through**

Time

Initiation Meeting: 12:00-12:30 pm

Walk-through: 12:30-1:30 pm



DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**Participants**

Stuart Davenport (Bloomingtondale)

Lana Labermeier (Bloomingtondale)

Lili Chapa (Bloomingtondale)

Veronica Wilson (Bloomingtondale)

Ed Jones (Bloomingtondale)

Sharlene Reed (DDOT)

Abraham Lerner (HNTB)

Tetsuya Yamamoto (HNTB)

Kirk Bereuter (HNTB)

Gregory Gersch (Eyebeam)

MEETING MINUTES

The Project Initiation Meeting was held between the community representatives of Bloomingtondale, the project manager from the District Department of Transportation and the HNTB team members followed by the initial walk-through of the project site. The following is a summary of the discussion and the inventory of existing conditions.

STREETSCAPE:

- After HNTB presented the outline of the project including the project goals, purpose of the meeting, the work plan, the schedule, and the scope, project boundaries and priorities were discussed. There is a general consensus among the community representatives that 1st Street NW, with a special interest in the commercial area near the intersection of Rhode Island Avenue, is the center of this community and requires highest level of attention for improvements.
- Following 1st Street NW, the next priority would be the North Capitol Street between Randolph Place and Florida Avenue where also some commercial buildings line the wider sidewalk space.
- Community representatives will coordinate with the Bloomingtondale Beautification Committee (Casandra Green) and other local organizations as soon as possible.
- As a general approach, the streetscape design for 1st Street NW and North Capitol Street as described above will be prioritized. If a part of the pre-approved implementation budget is still available after covering the cost of improvements for these streets, some of the side streets will be considered for the improvements as much as the funding is available.
- Community representatives requested that the name "Eckington" as listed in the contract documents of this project be changed to Bloomingtondale. DDOT and HNTB will discuss this request to start using the requested, more appropriate name, as soon as possible.

- The wrought iron fencing around the street tree boxes, the planting edged by Liriope in the tree boxes, and the banners on existing street lights will be considered for the improvements of 1st Street NW and North Capitol Street. Wrought iron fence will be placed on three sides but not extended to touch the back of the street curb so that they do not create any conflicts with the parked cars, the passengers, and the doors.
- Sod will be also considered for the continuous linear planting beds currently exist along 1st Street NW. In which case, in order to avoid damages by the passengers descending from the parked cars, the partial pavements across the linear planting beds will be taken into consideration where appropriate.
- Community member asked if the conversion of the existing concrete pavement to the brick pavement could be included in this project (or in any other funding sources available through DDOT). Ward 5 Planner answered that DDOT funds for sidewalk replacements are limited. The Streetscape project will not address sidewalk replacement issues. DDOT is replacing damaged sidewalks as funds become available using the existing sidewalk material.
- The triangle at Rhode Island Avenue and First Street NW belongs to NPS. No streetscape improvements needed. Two civic associations maintain the area.
- Community member stated that the banners are not the priority of this community. And they may not be implemented if the funding is not sufficient to cover the other items. However, it was also discussed to develop the banners that could bring some vibrancy to 1st Street NW and provide continuity of the corridor when viewed from the commercial area near the intersection of Rhode Island Avenue. Banners will be mounted high enough to make them visible well above some of the canopies of the street trees.
- The planters on Quincy Street need improvements. If implemented, Coordinate improvements on Quincy Street with gas/lead pipe replacement project currently underway.

BANNERS:

- Community Representatives said that the neighborhood wishes to emphasize green design in everything they do. They also said that developing the First Street corridor is the top priority.
- Ed Jones urged to view the website www.bloomingdalecd.org, by neighborhood resident/local amateur historian Scott Roberts.
- Residents noted that the neighborhood was predominantly “white and Jewish” at the turn of the previous century. They also advised that the HNTB team take a look at a house of special significance currently being restored on the corner of 2nd Street NW and T Street NW.
- Landmarks with graphic potential:

Sylvan Theatre marquee
Fire Station No.12

- Other landmarks:

St. Martins

The Harry Thomas Center

Crispus Attucks Park

PROJECT MANAGEMENT:

- It was announced that the project web site www.DCStreetEnhancements.org will become live around the beginning of November.
- Next step – HNTB will develop the existing conditions inventory documents and present them to the community representatives at the next Community Workshop in November. HNTB will use the community workshops to help generating preliminary ideas and concepts of each improvement item.